

## THE WAR IN AFRICA.

WARREN'S MOVE VERY  
WEIGHTY.On His Success or Failure  
Depends Roberts' Plans.

London, Jan 15, 4 30 a. m.—Lord Roberts' enigmatical announcement "no change in the situation," does nothing to allay public anxiety or to explain the mystery surrounding Gen Buller's movements on the Tugela and, although there is a disposition to regard the dispatch as disposing of Saturday's adverse rumors, the week has opened in a state of suspense almost equal to that of last week, because it is recognized that failure in Gen Buller's present attempt would seal the fate of Lady-smith.

Presumably "no change in the situation" refers to previous dispatches sent to the war office, which have not yet been revealed to the public. Except the announcement of the seizure of Potgieter's drift and of the advance of Gen Warren, there has been no news from the Tugela for a week. A ray of hope is in the fact that the same silence prevails from the Boer side. Thus it may, perhaps, be fairly inferred that Gen Buller has not yet met a serious check.

If the announcement of Gen Warren's movement be correct, it is evident that Gen Buller's forces are spread over a very wide front—perhaps 25 miles—and in the event of a sudden fall of the river his operations might be full of danger. It is believed that Gen Buller has no good survey maps of the district. This will add to his difficulties.

Sir Charles Warren's advance probably means an attempt to seize Ellangwane hill, the main post of the Boers south of the Tugela. Upon the success or failure of these operations depends the whole future of the campaign. Until the result is known, Lord Roberts will be unable to decide how to dispose the two divisions and the reinforcements now arriving.

The news from other points is of no great importance. Boer accounts tell of another sortie from Kimberley on Jan 9, in the direction of Kamfers dam, with a brisk exchange of firing, but no results. A heavy detonation was heard on Jan 8 within Kimberley.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Modder river, dated Jan 10, gives a rumor that Kimberley was being bombarded.

Basard's Nek, mentioned in Lord Roberts' dispatch as the locality of a reconnaissance, is northwest of Colesberg.

Doubts are beginning to be raised whether it will be possible to get together anything like 10,000 yeomanry. Only a very small percentage of the applicants satisfy the standard of riding and shooting. A large number of officers from the Egyptian army have just left Cairo for South Africa to replace those killed and wounded.

## Boers Lost Heavily Attempting to Take an Entrenchment.

Rensberg, Cape Colony, Monday, Jan 15.—The Boers this morning attempted to rush a hill held by a company of the Yorkshires and New Zealanders, but they were repulsed at the point of the bayonet. The Boers had 21 men killed and about 50 wounded.

The hill commands a tract of country east of the main position of the Boers.

They advanced cautiously, directing their fire at a small wall held by the Yorkshires, and compelling the latter to keep close under cover. When the Boers rushed the wall the Yorkshires fixed bayonets and charged. Just at the moment Capt Madocks, with a small party of New Zealanders, came up, and the combined forces leaped over the wall and charged straight for the enemy, who fled followed by a withering fire at close range.

The Boers literally tumbled over each other in their hurry to escape, but the persistent fire of the British inflicted a heavy loss.

Desultory firing continued for some time, but the attack was an utter failure, and the Boers retreated to the cover of the small kopjes at the base of the hill.

## AT MODDER RIVER

Modder River, Tuesday, Jan 16.—There was a brisk exchange of shells this morning, the Boers returning our fire for the first time in several days.

The British entrenchments are being continually strengthened and extended. The permanent railway bridge is almost completed.

Heavy rains have fallen in the hills recently, and the fords of the Relt river are all impassable.

GEN BULLER'S ARMY CROSSING  
TUGELA RIVER.

London, Jan 18, 4 30 a. m.—Gen Buller's complete surprise of the Boers

on Potgieter's drift bills tends greatly to restore confidence in his tactics. It is shown his forces are concentrated. In Cape Colony, Methuen has made a demonstration in force, shelling the Boer works Gatacre is skirmishing around Molteno. French is shelling the Boers at Rensberg. Col Plumer is moving to the relief of Mafeking from Bechuanaland, with less than 2,000 men. Mafeking is a bad way; the siege is being pressed with determination, and the Kaffirs are deserting Plumer. On Jan 11, was 100 miles north of Mafeking.

London, Jan 18.—The Times publishes the following dispatch from Spearman's farm, dated Jan 17, 9 20 p. m.:

"The force marched westward on Jan 10. Lord Dundonald, by a dash, moved occupied the hills above Potgieter's drift, 15 miles west of Colenso, taking the Boers completely by surprise.

"The same evening the infantry followed. Gen Lyttleton's brigade crossed the river yesterday and today shelled the Boer trenches beyond with Howitzers.

"Gen Warren's force is now crossing Triebhardt's drift, five miles above. He is not opposed, although the Boers are holding a position five miles from the river."

A Pietermaritzburg dispatch to The Mail late Wednesday evening, the 17th, says arrivals from Estcourt report there was fighting on the Tugela today.

Gen Lyttleton, after crossing Potgieter's drift, seized ridges a mile beyond and effectively shelled the Boers. Warren also lodged two miles beyond the Tugela toward Sproon Kop.

A Durban dispatch says mailpax is reported to have broken out among the Boers.

## TO HELP KIMBERLY.

Modder river, Cape Colony, Jan 17.—There was a demonstration in force, under Gen Methuen, yesterday, a division being engaged, with the object of ascertaining the strength and disposition of the Boer force and also in order to try to draw the Boers from Kimberley, where, lately, they have been active. The British discovered the Boers in great force and being reinforced from the direction of Jaconadai.

At 4 30 the artillery opened fire. The shells dropping in the Boer entrenchments with great precision. The attack was directed against the Boer left. The firing continued until sunset mostly with artillery, although the Guards, on the right, fired some long range volleys.

The Boers reserved their fire until the British were returning to camp in the darkness, when six shells followed them. There were no casualties among the British troops.

London, Jan 19, 4 a. m.—Military critics in touch with the war office consider that the expected battle, along the wide arc south and west of Ladysmith, can hardly be delayed beyond today. From Durban it is reported that fighting has already begun.

Gen Buller's forces engaged in the flanking operation across the Tugela are some 13,000 or 14,000 bayonets, 1,200 cavalry and 40 guns. The disposition of his other 15,000 or 20,000 men is not known, although the assumption is that the whole army will be in action when the hour for combined movement arrives.

Three weeks ago Gen Buller had 30,000 men. Considerable reinforcements who since have arrived giving him probably 35,000 men and 80 guns all told. Estimates of how many men and guns the Boers have to oppose him are mere guess work. In not replying to Gen Lyttleton's shells they are using the tactics that proved so successful in the battles of Magersfontein and Colenso—lying low in their trenches and thus hoping to conceal their precise position until the infantry advance.

The Daily Chronicle's military expert sees a curious analogy between Gen Buller's situation now and on the eve of Magersfontein. Now, as then, the Boers are making a stand, with their backs to investing lines within a few miles. As Lord Methuen, after crossing Modder river, had to attack the Spyfontein and Magersfontein hills, so Gen Buller, after passing the Tugela, faces invisible entrenchments in a rough country.

## NO TURNING BACK.

Gen Buller's warning about the misuse of the white flag by the Boers in his proclamation to the troops is considered a rather bold hint to give no quarter. His phrase "there will be no turning back" is played upon editorially by the morning papers as presaging cheerful announcements.

The absorbing interest felt in the situation in Natal makes other points in the theatre of war seem microscopic. Lord Methuen lies behind his works at Modder river. It is estimated that his forces will have to be nearly or quite doubled before he can relieve Kimberley.

British reinforcements are moving toward Gen French at Rensberg. With these he is expected to advance. Gen Gatacre's men occupy Lopesburg, a slight advance.

The war office announces that next week will be embarked 72 guns, 3,710 men and 2,210 horses. This is the largest consignment of artillery ever sent abroad. The war office invites 500 volunteers for a sharpshooters' battalion of yeomanry.

The officials of the war office are satisfied that the tide has turned and

that news of a more hopeful character from a British point of view will hereafter be the rule instead of the exception. That the British advance in a northeasterly direction will be fiercely resisted is fully anticipated. The Boer strength is probably superior to the British and the dispatches show the burghers occupy strong positions.

There is some doubt as to whether the Sproenkop occupied by Gen Warren is identical with Spionkon. If so the British are within a few miles of Acton Homes, the scene of earlier conflicts between White's forces and the invading Free States whence there is a good road to Ladysmith.

While Gen Warren's force was crossing the Tugela river, the Boers occupied a thickly wooded plantation a mile north of the river and sent several volleys into the advance guard. The British replied and the artillery opened on a neighboring kopje. As the British pushed across the river the Boers found their position uncomfortable and retired to the hills. Immediately after the pontoon bridge was completed the whole British force crossed.

Meanwhile the naval guns on Swartzkop have been persistently shelling the Boer entrenchments facing the kopje occupied by Littleton's brigade.

One correspondent mentions Gen Buller's wheeled transport of 5,000 vehicles which connect him with the railroad, about 30 miles to the rear, among these vehicles are 80 traction engines, which draw from ten to fifteen wagons each.

## BRITISH LOSSES UP TO DATE.

London, January 19.—The British losses in killed, wounded and captured up to date are 7,987, officers and men.

## REPORT FROM BULLER.

London, Jan 18, 9 37 p. m.—The war office has issued the following: From Buller, Spearman's camp, Jan. 18.

"One field artillery, Howitzer battery and Lyttleton's brigade are across the Tugela and Potgieter's drift. The enemy's position is being bombarded by us.

"Five miles higher up, Warren has crossed the river by a pontoon 85 yards long. He hopes his force will, by evening, have advanced five miles from the river to his right front. The enemy is busily entrenching."

From Roberts, Cape Town, Jan 18: "Gatacre reports that 300 men of all ranks have been moved from Bushman's Hoeke to Lopesburg and that the Seventy fourth field battery and one company of Mounted Infantry from Sterkstroom to Bushman's Noeck. Otherwise there is no change."

## The Expected Battle Not Fought

London, Jan 20, 4 30 a. m.—Every hour that Gen Buller delays his combined attack makes his position stronger. Transports continue to arrive at Durban, and fresh troops are being sent up the line to reinforce those in front of Colenso. It appears that Gen Buller's troops north of the Tugela number at least 22,000 and possibly 25,000 with 50 guns. His total forces, forming a great outer curve south and west of Ladysmith, probably number 40,000.

While Gen Buller's forward operations, which began on Jan 10, develop rather leisurely, the Boers appear to be fully aware that they must meet a strenuous assault. Balloon observers have roughly estimated that 10,000 Boers are using spade and pick in artificially strengthening positions which nature has rendered easy of defense.

Military critics in touch with the war office think that news that general fighting has begun may be expected at any hour.

It is not thought that one day's fighting will settle the fate of Ladysmith, but rather that there will be two or three days of continuous fighting.

## BOERS PREPARING.

London, Jan 20.—A dispatch to The Daily Telegraph dated Thursday from Spearman's Camp, describes the difficulties of the march owing to the unwieldy baggage column, including all the tents and sheep over bad roads in wet weather. The correspondent then goes on to say: "Some ten thousand Boers arrived in the vicinity of Potgieter's drift on Thursday and Friday of last week and began the erection of extensive and formidable lines of trenches, for their position apparently could only be turned from the west by assailing the high ridges of the Sproen Kop."

"A balloonist today reported that no guns were visible in the enemy's works, but there was a large Boer camp in the direction of Brakfontein, a brown ridge four miles from Potgieter's drift."

"Boers arrived in large numbers today from Colenso and Ladysmith. They have certainly run branches of the railway from Modder spruit around Mt Balwya. Nearly all the Boers have gone to attempt to check General Warren's advance, but he made no sign today."

A dispatch to The Daily Telegraph from Spearman's farm or camp, as the correspondents now describe it, dealing with Lord Dundonald's movement to west of Gen Warren's force, already cabled, says: "His success gives us

control of any easy entrance to Ladysmith. Our guns continue to bombard the Boer lines, the Boers reply but feebly. General Warren is advancing steadily."

## WELCOME SOUNDS IN LADY-SMITH.

Ladysmith, Wednesday, Jan 17, via Spearman's Camp, Jan 19.—Everything is quiet. The position is unchanged, and there is very little bombarding.

The welcome sound of the guns of the relief column was heard yesterday from Colenso and Springfield.

The heat is intense, but there is no increase of sickness.

BOER TRENCHES SHELLLED AT  
COLENZO.

London, Jan 20.—The Standard publishes the following, dated Thursday, from Spearman's farm: "It is reported that the Boers opposite Colenso, on finding that Gen Buller had outmanoeuvred them, crossed to the south of the Tugela on Monday and set fire to all the houses in the village."

"As the force from Chieveley advanced the Boers retired before them to trenches on a hill in line with Colenso. Our infantry advanced to the attack in skirmishing order, followed by supports and reserves, our cavalry scouting on the right close up the river. The Boer forces at Colenso must have been considerably weakened by the dispatch of large reinforcements westward to meet Gen Buller's advance, and they now hurriedly evacuated the river trenches and the kopjes opposite village and scattered before our shrapnel. By evening none of the enemy was left within rifle shot of Colenso. The British force then retired to Chieveley."

## A Thousand Tongues

Could not express the rapture of Annie E. Springer, of 1125 Howard St., Philadelphia, Pa., when she found that Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption had completely cured her of a hacking cough that for many years had made life a burden. All other remedies and doctors could give her no help, but she says of this Royal Cure—"it soon removed the pain in my chest and I can now sleep soundly, something I can scarcely remember doing before. I feel like sounding its praises throughout the Universe." So will every one who tries Dr. King's New Discovery for any trouble of the Throat, Chest or Lungs. Price 50c and \$1. Trial bottles free at J. F. W. DeLorme's Drug Store; every bottle guaranteed.

## The Excursion of Roberts Will be Recommended.

Washington, Jan 17.—The special committee of the house of representatives to investigate the case of Brigham H. Roberts of Utah today reached a final conclusion.

The committee was unanimous and agreed upon a formal statement of facts. On the question of procedure to be adopted the committee was divided. The majority, consisting of all the members except Littlefield of Maine and DeArmond of Missouri favored exclusion at the outset. Messrs. Littlefield (Rep.) and DeArmond (Dem.) will make a minority report favorable to seating Roberts on his prima facie rights and then expelling him. The majority were Taylor, Frear, Morris and McPherson, Republicans, Lanham and Miers, Democrats.

**PAIN'S CUBAN RELIEF** cures Colic, Neuralgia and Toothache in five minutes. Sour Stomach and Summer Complaints. Price 25c. Sold by Hughes-Ligon Co.

In her Indian empire England has some 290,000,000 people. Of these 49,000,000 are now affected by the famine and only 3,250,000 are receiving relief. The viceroy, Lord Curzon, announces that in this appalling disaster India will have to strive and suffer alone, "the thoughts of every Englishman in the world are centred on South Africa." Even so. It is a commentary on imperialism. In order to gain new empire England is pouring out hundreds of millions of treasure—enough to feed the tens of millions who starve in India—and so intent is she upon this great task to which she has set herself that she must be callous to the cry of one sixth of the vast population of her oldest empire, now perishing for want of food. She has assumed great duties which she cannot fulfill because she wishes to assume new ones elsewhere. Humane people on thinking of this will conclude that England's empire is already too large for England's credit.—The State.

## Work at Port Royal.

Washington, Jan 19.—By reason of the growing importance, from a labor standpoint, the naval station at Port Royal, S. C., has been provided with regularly organized boards for the employment and regulation of labor.

The product of the world's gold mines last year is put at \$312,954,468, of which this country produced \$72,483,055; Australia, \$78,082,171; South Africa, \$73,108,650; Russia, \$24,072,334, the balance being divided among a half dozen or more countries.

A FEW WORDS  
TO OUR FRIENDS.

## MR. EDITOR:

You may have had us in mind when referring in a recent issue of your paper to the peculiarity of merchants in regard to advertising, in which you quoted them as saying that "in good times it was not necessary to advertise, and in hard times it did not pay." While we have always found that advertising paid us, we must confess that for the past sixty days any increase of business that we might secure by that means, could not have been satisfactorily waited on, as our clerical force has been taxed to its utmost capacity.

Now that the rush of cotton is over and we have an opportunity to say a few words to our friends in the country, we desire to acknowledge, through the columns of the Watchman and Southron, our grateful thanks to them for the liberal patronage bestowed upon us, for which we can offer nothing in return except our promise that their interests will be as carefully guarded by us in the future as they have been in the past.

It is particularly gratifying to us to acknowledge a very liberal trade during the months of September and October from our farming friends, to whom it was our pleasure to extend a credit during the summer. It proves to us that they appreciate our endeavor to be just and reasonable with them, when they need assistance, as we have always tried to be—our motto being

## LIVE AND LET LIVE

Although we tried to anticipate this season's wants by buying a heavier stock than ever before, our trade has so far exceeded our expectations, that we have been obliged to replenish frequently and freely every department of our store.

## In Dry Goods

We bought a very heavy stock of staples, a fair percentage of which we still have on hand and are selling at old prices, Those

## Tar Heel Blankets

Which you have been waiting for so long have come at last. It was not our fault that they were not here sooner as our contracts were made in May for September delivery, but the mill has been so crowded with orders it was impossible to deliver them sooner. These goods are made in

A Southern Mill.  
From Southern Wool,  
By Southern Men

and there are none better. They are improving on the finish every year. We are selling at the same price as last year; but if we have to duplicate we will be obliged to charge an advance. We only have about

## FIFTY PAIRS,

so don't put off buying, or you may get left.

## SHOES.

Why the advance in cotton should have affected the price of shoes, but strange to say they too have gone up. We don't know whether it was judgment or luck, but our purchases for Fall were nearly double our usual contracts. We are buying now for Spring and paying 10 to 15 per cent more for the same class of goods, but those on hand will go at the old prices while they last.

In our write-up about Shoes last Fall we had something special to say about

## The H. C. Godman Line for Women and Children.

Our increased sales for these goods prove that we told the truth. Bear in mind we are still the SOLE AGENTS FOR THEM AND GUARANTEE EVERY PAIR.

THE L. M. REYNOLDS LINE OF MEN'S SHOES, sold exclusively by us, are trade-winners. The prices range from \$1.75 to \$3.50, and every pair warranted. If you want the best \$3.00 shoe buy a Reynolds.

## CLOTHING.

This has certainly been our banner season in the clothing business, and if there are any of the men or boys in the county who have not bought a suit, it has not been our fault; but fearing there still may be a few unprovided, we are keeping up our stock by telegraphing orders for shipment by express.

If you need an overcoat see us before buying, as we have some great values.

In our Hat and Furnishing Goods Department will be found some values that compare favorably with the balance of our stock.

This announcement would not be complete without a word about our

## GROCERY STOCK.

This department is up to the usual standard, and that is saying about all that is necessary for it. Our MILLBURN FLOUR, of which we believe there is more sold in this county than other brand, is pronounced by those who use it, unsurpassed.

**O'Donnell & Co.**